

informs me that it is the only specimen that has come to his notice for at least three years.—ARTHUR H. NORTON, *Portland, Me.*

The Ruff at Seabrook, N. H.—On September 24, 1907, I received a specimen of a European Ruff (*Pavoncella pugnax*) shot at Seabrook, N. H. The bird was a young female and the man who sent it to me said it was in company with a flock of ten or twelve Beetle-head Plover.

I would like to add—as some one not very long ago stated in 'The Auk' that he considered the Stilt Sandpiper extremely rare in Massachusetts—that I have within two years received 18 or 20 birds of this species in one day from near Newburyport, Mass.—JOHN H. HARDY, JR., *Arlington, Mass.*

Capture of the White-winged Dove in the State of Washington.—It gives me pleasure to record the capture of an adult female White-winged Dove (*Melopelia leucoptera*), which I collected Nov. 7, 1907, in the Puyallup River Valley. It forms the first record for this species for the State of Washington. It was alone and rather wild, necessitating a long wing shot to secure it. The feet and feathers being in perfect condition excludes any possibility of its being a cage-bird, even if such a thing were likely in this part of the country.—J. H. BOWLES, *Tacoma, Wash.*

Capture of the American Goshawk and Harris's Sparrow near Chicago, Ill.—A fine specimen of the American Goshawk (*Accipiter atricapillus*) was shot by L. E. Wyman, in the woods at River Forest on the Desplaines River, near Chicago, October 19, 1907. The bird, a female, was in magnificent plumage and of unusual size, measuring 25 inches in length with a spread of 46½ inches. The stomach was entirely empty, but a feast was in sight in the shape of a large white hen, which it lifted several feet from the ground; the second time both settled to earth after a shot from a small 44-gauge collecting gun, the hen escaping under the fence to the barnyard near by.

Nelson reported them very rare in 1876, and the only records for this section of Illinois are that of Woodruff, who shot a male March 30, 1889, and the two instances mentioned in Mr. Ruthven Deane's article on the American Goshawk, in 'The Auk,' for April, 1907.

I might mention another rare bird taken by Mr. Wyman October 13, 1907, at Beach, Lake Co., Ill., a male Harris Sparrow (*Zonotrichia querula*). It flushed from the ground to a small pine in company with a lot of Juncos (*Junco hyemalis*). Nelson reported this sparrow rare in 1876, and since then the specimen obtained by J. O. Dunn in 1895, and one seen in Lincoln Park by Ruthven Deane May 11, 1904, seem to be the only other records.—FRANK S. DAGGETT, *Chicago, Ill.*

A Large Migration of Hawks.—The guests at Lake Minnewaska, N. Y., had an opportunity in September to see the migration of large numbers of

hawks, presumably the Broad-winged. I enclose a letter from Mr. Kirk Munroe, the author, stating what he saw, and give you my own statement of what I saw myself, my estimates being, in all cases, moderate, and the numbers in some cases being from actual count. The birds were in most cases circling, in some cases sailing straight forward, a beat of the wings being extremely rare. As, in clear weather, the birds were very high, and in bad weather the light was very poor, I will not insist too strenuously upon my identification of the hawks as the Broad-winged, but I am substantially certain. The flocks were moving, in the main, from northeast to southwest, but parts of some of the flocks turned off to the west.

The flocks were accompanied, or followed, occasionally, by Red-shouldered Hawks; once or twice, apparently, by Fish Hawks; twice by Marsh Hawks, and once by an Eagle.

The flocks seen by me, then, numbered as follows:— Sept. 15, 30; Sept. 16, 15; Sept. 17, 11 and 30; Sept. 20, 35, 35, 50, 66, 10, 23, 50, 15, 40; Sept. 21. 30.

Those seen by Mr. Munroe, as will be noticed, were seen mostly on a day when I saw none, thus making the grand total very large. It may be that what we saw was not unusual, and therefore not worthy of special notice; but if it was at all out of the common, your readers will, no doubt, like to hear of it.— ROBT. BARBOUR, *Montclair, N. J.*

[Mr. Munroe's letter to Mr. Barbour, referred to above, is as follows:]

DEAR MR. BARBOUR:— A few days since: or to be more explicit, on the 18th inst., while on a walking trip to the Ice Caves of the Shawangunk Mountains near Ellenville, N. Y., in company with three Columbia College boys, I witnessed a most astonishing migratory flight of Broadwinged(?) Hawks concerning which I should like some further information.

When our attention was attracted to the birds we had come out from the caves and were eating our lunch on the summit of a rocky ridge from which we had an uninterrupted view of the sky as well as of a vast extent of territory on either side. The forerunners of the migration were a few stragglers that only caused comment by their undeviating and unhesitating southward flight. These leaders were, however, quickly followed by other birds in ever increasing numbers until the marvellous flight extended as far as the eye could reach to the eastward; and upwards to a point where the great birds appeared no larger than so many sparrows.

When the hawks first aroused curiosity by their numbers, one of my companions undertook to count them; but having counted fifty in less than one minute, he gave over the attempt, and was glad to have done so when, at the end of an hour the incredible flight still continued without pause or diminution.

I cannot venture even to guess how many hawks passed above us during that time; but know that they numbered well up among the thousands, and I write to ask if ever before you heard of a hawk migration on so vast a scale?

I would add that three days after encountering this remarkable flight, I witnessed another of the same character, only this time numbering but two or three hundred individuals, taking the same southerly direction over Sam's Point, but a few miles from the caves visited on the previous occasion.

If you can tell me where these countless thousands of hawks came from, whither they were bound, upon what they subsist while travelling, or if you can throw any other light upon the subject you will greatly oblige,

Yours most truly,

KIRK MUNROE.

New Massachusetts Records for the Hawk and Great Gray Owls.— I have just secured for the Thoreau Museum of Natural History, at the Middlesex School, Concord, Massachusetts, a specimen of the Hawk Owl (*Surnia ulula caparoch*) shot in the Lake Walden woods on the border of Lincoln, Mass., in February, 1907, and one of the Great Gray Owl (*Scotioptex nebulosa*) shot in the Hoar woods, in Concord, Mass., in December, 1906. With these I have also secured specimens of the Great-horned, Snowy, Short-eared, Long-eared, Barred, Screech and Acadian Owls, all taken in Concord during the past few years. These were shot by Henry C. Wheeler, a trapper and woodsman of Concord. This Hawk Owl makes, I believe, the fourteenth record for the State, and the Great Gray the eighteenth. A careful investigation into their capture leaves no doubt in my mind as to their authenticity.— REGINALD HEBER HOWE, JR., *Concord, Mass.*

Chestnut-collared Longspur (*Calcarius ornatus*) in Maryland.— It is with pleasure that I add another species to the list of Maryland birds, namely, the Chestnut-collared Longspur, adult male. The specimen was shot August 20, 1906, by Captain Annsley Ludlam of Ocean City, Md., on the Thoroughfare farm just beyond the drawbridge across Assateague Bay and west of the north end of Ocean City and in full view of it. It was found on a sandy knoll with but little grass and that short and scrubby. Recognizing it as a bird he did not know he shot it and brought it to me. I packed it in ice and sent it to the Smithsonian Institution where it now is.— F. C. KIRKWOOD, *Oldtown, Alleghany Co., Md.*

Nelson's Sparrow (*Ammodramus nelsoni*) on Long Island, N. Y.— It is with satisfaction that Nelson's Sharp-tailed Sparrow is herewith recorded as taken within Long Island boundaries. This species was included in the 'List of the Birds of Long Island, New York,' which appears in the last number of 'Abstracts of the Proceedings of the Linnæan Society of New York,' with some hesitation, since search through the literature, collections of birds and generously offered field-notes of others failed to confirm my assumption that it was certainly a migrant. Dr. Bishop found it on the